

Updated March 18, 2020

A novel (new) Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is causing a global pandemic. The purpose of this script is to provide guidance for research personnel related to visits for research participants. In general, research visits should be limited to those that are “essential to the health and/or well-being” of the participant. For more information see the “Guidance to Researchers Regarding Determination of Whether a Human Research Visit Should Take Place.”

Make every effort to interview research subjects/participants by telephone, text monitoring system or video conference to pre-screen for symptoms **PRIOR** to them coming in for an appointment. Push back 14 days if they have any of the symptoms as well (see below).

### **Script for CRC/Research Staff [Pre-Screen Phone Interview]:**

*“For health safety reasons, and to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, we are asking a few screening questions regarding any symptoms before making an appointment or home visit.”*

**1. Pre-Screening Questions Script:**

- a. *“Have you had a fever  $\geq 100F^1$  and/or a cough, shortness of breath, or other respiratory symptoms within the past 21 days?”*

**Note answer and complete number 1b below**

- b. Ask... *“Have you, or anyone close to you, had close contact with anyone who is ill or known to have the novel Coronavirus within the last 21 days?”*

**If answer to 1a or 1b is yes, complete remaining items below**

**2. Respond to Research Study Participant:**

**SCRIPTING:** *“Since you answered YES to one of the prior questions, and out of an abundance of caution, we would suggest contacting your personal physician. We need to ensure everyone’s safety first before we can schedule you for an in-person appointment. Thank you for your understanding.”*

- 3. Further Instructions for Participant:** Instruct participant to contact the study team and reschedule if there is any change to their health status between the time of the phone screening appointment and the date and time of their scheduled in-person appointment.

### **Script for CRC/Research Staff [In-Person Appointments]:**

*“For health safety reasons, and to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, we are asking a few screening questions regarding your travel history and symptoms.”*

**1. Pre-Screening Questions Script:**

- a. *“Have you had a fever  $\geq 100F^1$  and/or a cough, shortness of breath, or other respiratory symptoms within the past 21 days?”*

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**Note answer and complete number 1b below**

- b. Ask... *“Have you, or anyone close to you, had close contact with anyone who is ill or known to have the novel Coronavirus within the last 21 days?”*

**If answer to 1a or 1b is yes, complete remaining items below**

- 2. Staff member immediately puts on appropriate mask and directs the participant to put on a mask.**  
**SCRIPTING:** *“Since you answered YES to one of the prior questions, and out of an abundance of caution, I’d like you to put on this mask and then follow me to a private room. Please stay in the room and a member of our team will be with you shortly to discuss the next steps. If you need anything, please knock on the door while leaving the door closed.”*
- 3. Isolate Participant:** Place participant in a private room with door closed or have them sit in their car or an area outside that is easy to decontaminate until you are able to get direction from Infection Prevention or the UCDH hotline.
- 4. Notify Infection Prevention:** Call 916-734-3377 (if it is M-F 0700-1700) or call the employee Coronavirus hotline at 916-548-9153 if you need any additional information or assistance.

**NOTES:**

1. Fever may not be present in some patients, such as those who are very young, elderly, immunosuppressed, or taking certain fever-lowering medications.
2. Close contact with a person who is under investigation for 2019-nCoV. Close contact is defined as...
  - a. being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters), or within the room or care area, of a novel Coronavirus case for a prolonged period of time while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified disposable N95 respirator or surgical mask, eye protection); close contact can include caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a healthcare waiting area or room with a novel Coronavirus case.
  - or –
  - b. having direct contact with infectious secretions of a novel Coronavirus case (e.g., being coughed on) while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment.

**THE SITUATION IS VERY FLUID SO VISIT THE UC DAVIS HEALTH SITE REGULARLY  
THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR SHOULD BE CONTACTED  
TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC SITUATIONS**

**The CTSC HAS ALSO CREATED A TIGER TEAM TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW TO  
HANDLE CLINICAL RESEARCH SUBJECTS. CONTACT CHRISTOPHER KAIN, RN, MSN, CSL  
(CTSC Clinical Research Center Nurse Manager) at 916-703-5595 or [crkain@ucdavis.edu](mailto:crkain@ucdavis.edu)**

**Daniel Nishijima, MD, MAS (Medical Director) and Ted Wun, MD (CTSC PI)  
may also be reached for guidance using TigerText**